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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** A. Burchell et al.

**Examiner:**

Lisa V. Cook

**Serial No.:** 09/972,105

**Group Art Unit:**

1641

**Filed:** October 4, 2001

**Docket:**

350013-76

**Title:** PRENATAL DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

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**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being transmitted via regular mail of the US Postal Service, first-class mail, postage prepaid, under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 on 5-302003, and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By:

Joel Voelzke

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

This paper is in response to the Office Action dated January 2, 2003. By the Petition for a Two Month Extension enclosed herewith, the date for responding is extended to June 6, 2003.

Please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.